

V. REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4-28 are rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Matayoshi (JP 2002-035209) in view of Susumu (JP 11-156001 A). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

JP 209 teaches a gaming machine such as a pachinko or slot machine. The gaming machine includes a pair of speakers that are exposed on the front surface of the gaming machine. A source of light is disposed adjacent to respective ones of the pair of speakers. Each one of the pair of speakers along with its light source is covered by a cover.

JP 001 discloses a gaming machine having a recess formed in a variety of stepped shapes surrounding a light source for reflecting light.

Claim 1 is directed to a gaming machine that includes a controller, a cabinet, a sound output device, a light emission device and a cover. Claim 1 recites that the controller is configured to hold an internal lottery of a game using a random number at a predetermined timing and the cabinet contains the controller and has a front surface with a recess formed thereinto. Claim 1 also recites that the recess is defined by a recess bottom wall and a stepped down wall extending generally perpendicularly to the front surface and the bottom wall. Additionally, claim 1 recites that the sound output device is disposed in the recess through the bottom wall, has a part exposed to the front surface of the cabinet of the gaming machine and is configured to output sound toward a front direction. Claim 1 further recites that the light emission device is disposed away from the exposed part of the sound output device and is attached to the stepped down wall and the light emission device is configured to emit light. Furthermore, claim 1 recites that the cover is operative to be releasably connected to the front surface and to cover the light emission device with the cover having an internal surface and an opposite external surface with the internal surface having continuous asperities formed thereon for irregularly reflecting and diffusing the emitted light.

Claim 11 is directed to a gaming machine that includes a cabinet, a sound output device and a light emission device. Claim 11 recites that the cabinet has a front surface with a recess formed thereinto with the recess defined by a recess bottom wall and a stepped down wall extending generally perpendicularly to the front surface and the recess bottom wall. Claim 11 also recites that the sound output device is disposed in the recess through the bottom wall and has a part exposed to the front surface of the cabinet of the gaming machine and is configured to output sound toward a front direction. Further, claim 11 recites that the light emission device is disposed away from the exposed part of the sound output device and is attached to the stepped down wall with the light emission device configured to emit light.

Claim 20 is directed to a gaming machine that includes a controller, a cabinet, a sound output device, and a light emission device. Claim 20 recites that the controller is configured to hold an internal lottery of a game using a random number at a predetermined timing and the cabinet has a front surface with a recess formed thereinto with the recess defined by a recess bottom wall and a stepped down wall extending generally perpendicularly to the front surface and the recess bottom wall. Claim 20 further recites that the sound output device is disposed in the recess through the bottom wall and has a part exposed to the front surface of the cabinet of the gaming machine and is configured to output sound toward a front direction. Additionally, claim 20 recites that the light emission device is disposed away from the exposed part of the sound output device and attached to the stepped down wall with the light emission device configured to emit light.

It is respectfully submitted that that none of the applied art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the features of claims 1, 11 and 20. Specifically, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art, alone or in combination, fails to teach or suggest a stepped down wall extending generally perpendicularly to a front surface and a bottom wall with a light emission device being attached to the stepped down wall as recited in claims 1, 11 and 20. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art could not combine the features of the applied art to arrive at the claimed

invention because the applied art is devoid of all the features of the claimed invention. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 11 and 20 are allowable over the applied art.

In summary, the subject matter of the claimed invention is to attach the LEDs inside the speaker cover so that the direction of the light source becomes parallel with the front face of the cabinet as reflected by the claim language "a light emission device... attached to the stepped down wall" as recited in claims 1, 11 and 20. The stepped down wall is a side wall of the recess and is not a bottom wall. This feature is illustrated in Figure 5 and supported in the specification on page 9, paragraph [0019] which reads, in part, as follows:

An LED board 2106e is attached to a stepped part 2110d of a recess 2110 where a part of the speaker main unit 2108 is exposed, and white LEDs 2106a to 2106d are disposed on the LED board 2106e (shown in FIG. 5). The face of the stepped part 2110d is roughly perpendicular to the front of the cabinet and the bottom of the recess 2110.

For at least the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests this feature.

Claims 4-10 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Claims 12-19 depend from claim 11 and include all of the features of claim 11. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 11 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Claims 21-28 depend from claim 20 and include all of the features of claim 20. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 20 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

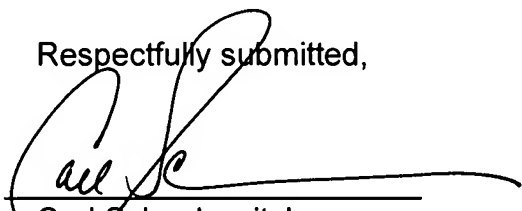
Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Further, Applicants assert that there are also reasons other than those set forth above why the pending claims are patentable. Applicants hereby reserve the right to submit those other reasons and to argue for the patentability of claims not explicitly addressed herein in future papers.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure(s): Amendment Transmittal
 Petition for Extension of Time (three months)

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